

## STATE OF MAINE MAINE REVENUE SERVICES

24 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0024

JANET E. WALDRON COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATIVE & FINANCIAL SERVICES

> ANTHONY J. NEVES STATE TAX ASSESSOR

November 20, 200**∅** 

Ken Smith, TM P.O. Box 10 101 Main Street Rockport, ME 04856

Dear Mr. Smith:

Mr. Tom Miragliuolo's e-mail of November 10, 2001 to Mr. Robert Meskers has been referred to me for response. The e-mail was regarding the sale of trash bags as part of a pay-per-bag trash disposal system.

In lieu of retailers collecting tax at the point of sale and in recognition that the primary value in the sale of the trash bags is the service of trash removal, the Bureau will agree to allow Camden, Rockport, Lincolnville and Hope to pay sales tax on the bags when they make their bulk purchases. The tax would apply to the cost of the bags plus the retainage permitted to retailers. I presume that these communities would increase the sale price to the bags to offset the sales tax that has been prepaid. At the outset of this procedure, these communities would remit tax on their inventory plus any significant inventory held by retailers on that months use tax return. Any further sales tax should be remitted to the communities' supplier. If the supplier is not required to collect Maine Sales Tax, the communities should remit use tax on the applicable months use tax return.

If this arrangement is acceptable to these communities, this letter can be provided to retailers participating in the program. It is intended to constitute an official confirmation that the waste disposal bags referenced in this letter be sold as though they are a non taxable item.

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Please feel free to contact me should you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Elmer J. Pelletier Deputy Director

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Sales/Fuel and Special Tax Division

Tel. (207) 287-2336

## EJP/nbl

cc: Tom Miragliuolo, Planner Waste Management & Recycling Maine State Planning Office 38 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0038